

# DALLAS AFTERSCHOOL



2014-2015 Annual Report

# Mission:

To improve the quality of afterschool and summer programs in our community.

# Vision:

That every student will have access to quality afterschool and summer programs that promote their intellectual, emotional and creative development in a safe environment.

# **Core Values:**

#### Integrity

We maintain the highest moral and ethical standards in all areas of our work.

#### Mission Driven

We believe that high quality afterschool and summer programs positively change children's lives in long lasting ways. We are passionate about the power of out-of-school time to strengthen our students, families and communities.

#### Collaboration

We openly share information with our community partners who might benefit from our knowledge and resources. We support each other; seeking ideas and solutions.

#### **Results Oriented**

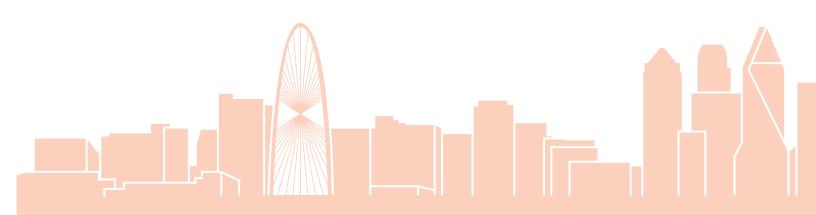
We effectively share resources in our community, utilizing honest feedback from partners and fellow team members to drive quality results.

#### **Commitment to Quality**

We hold our clients and ourselves to a high standard of excellence, in order to improve outcomes for students.

#### **Love of Learning**

We embrace a growth mindset of continuous improvement and foster it in our partners.



# Quality afterschool programs change children's lives.

Over the last year, we have witnessed the power quality out of school time has on children's grades, behavior and social emotional health. Through our work with 120 afterschool providers and more than 400 staff members, we saw children surpass expectations and excel beyond grade level in reading, get excited about STEM through hands-on learning opportunities and build confidence through participation in the arts and sports. Children developed relationships with caring adult mentors while learning the value of collaboration and team work – all during afterschool time.

Dallas Afterschool made great strides towards our mission to improve the quality of afterschool and summer in our community. From ensuring 8,000 children were in safe afterschool programs to providing materials for 3,250 students to have hands-on learning experiences through Wonder Kits, Dallas Afterschool is truly making afterschool better.

Despite this great progress, there is still much to be done to ensure that all children have access to high quality out of school time care. In Dallas, over 97,000 students are still left alone during the hours of 3 – 6 pm, more than enough children to fill AT&T Stadium to capacity. As we look to the next year, Dallas Afterschool is committed to making afterschool better for these children by increasing access and participation in out of school time programs. The results - better social, emotional and academic outcomes for the most at-risk and underserved children in our city are too important to our community to ignore any longer.

Wide-scale change takes time and is not easy, but with your continued support, we can make an investment in the children of Dallas that will last a lifetime.

Sincerely,

Christina K. Hanger, CEO

Terry Conner, Board Chair



# 29 nonprofit afterschool and summer organizations

120 unique sites





**416** staff members trained



9,000 students impacted



out of school time providers identified
With Dallas Afterschool's new website,
findafterschooldallas.com, parents can find out of school
time care that fits their family's needs all in one place!



96% of sites mastered at least one new indicator of quality

96% of sites passed safety assessment - a record!





Wonder Kit check-outs = materials to serve 3,250 children with interactive learning experiences



362 students assessed for social emotional health
The Devereux Student Strengths Assessment (DESSA)
showed 28% of students enrolled in afterschool programs
improved their emotional wellbeing over the year.

15 certified high quality sites serving over 1,800 students

As a result, over 9,000 Dallas area students are participating in safer, more engaging out of school time learning experiences.

# PQI- How we do it:

#### An integrated approach to achieving high quality

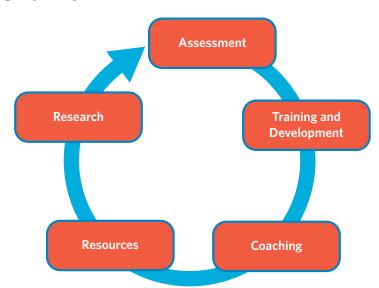
**Assessment** - safety audits, AQuA quality advancement tool

**Training and development** - personalized sessions and standard workshops

**Coaching** - one-on-one coaching during program hours, modeling best practices

**Resources** - free safety and program supplies, lending library of books and curriculum, Wonder Kits

**Research** - DISD data sharing, DESSA testing, SMU Center on Research and Education





#### Safe, healthy & nurturing environment

- Stimulating, welcoming and supportive setting
- Provides adequate security and appropriate adult supervision
- Culture of support, inclusion and mutual respect between participants and caring adults



## Supports physical, social & cognitive growth of all participants

- Features age and skill level appropriate programming
- Offers project based, experiential activities
- Provides enrichment opportunities in the arts, technology, recreation or health



## Positive relationships and interactions among staff, participants, families & communities

- Interacts with families in a respectful, welcoming way
- Builds a sense of community among participants
- Structured to create close, sustained relationships between participants and caring adults



#### Recruits, hires & develops diverse staff

- Ongoing staff development
- Positive working conditions
- Develops and supports staff to meet program participants' needs



## Student input valued in program planning & development

- Students encouraged to express ideas, concerns and opinions
- Promotes active and engaged participation
- Fromotes active and engaged participat
   Fosters student ownership of program



## Activities are aligned with & enrich school curriculum

- Programming integrates and complements school day activities
- Maintains communication with school personnel
- Utilizes school resources when possible



## Strong relationships established to achieve program goals

- Involves families in decision making and planning
- Communicates with parents concerning well-being of child
- Builds relationships with other community partners to expand and enhance program



## Collects data and utilizes outcomes for program improvement

- Measurable program goals
- Creates method for assessing program
- Uses objective data to measure progress



#### Well-developed systems & sound fiscal management

- Policies and procedures handbook created/utilized
- Program and activity schedule kept current/accurate
- Maximizes community resources to best meet the needs of participants and families



## Clear mission & vision that supports continued growth

- Employees staff who embrace program's goals
- Develops long-term plan for sustainability
- Forges relationships with community stakeholders

# After the Bell Alliance: A Community Collaboration



After the Bell Alliance is a community collaboration that will increase the efficient utilization of public resources and address systemic barriers, including access and lack of quality, that prevent Dallas children from having access to enriching out of school time programs. The initial focus of Phase One is in four targeted neighborhoods with a demonstrated high need: Bachman Lake, South

Dallas- Fair Park, South Oak Cliff, West Dallas. It is here we are implementing coordinated resources through community partnerships, parents, schools and out of school time programs to make afterschool better for some of Dallas' most under served students.



Wonder Kits started in 2012 after Dallas Afterschool gathered feedback from partner sites about the challenges of implementing larger curriculum in an out of school time setting. The main issues programs faced were:

- Lack of time for part-time staff to learn and prep new complicated activities
- Use of rotating volunteers who wanted to lead activities, but were intimidated by bulky curriculum plans
- Limited time to do hands-on activities in addition to facilitating traditional program offerings like homework help

In response, Dallas Afterschool created and designed Wonder Kits to fit the challenges and needs of flexible learning environments like afterschool programs. Powered by curiosity, Wonder Kits are ready to ignite a love of learning with only 10 minutes of prep time. Wonder Kits contain all materials needed to run a hands-on, engaging activity for up to 25 students and feature easy to follow instructions, a how-to video and tips to make every project a learning opportunity for both activity leaders and students.

Through the generous support of United Way of Metropolitan Dallas and Fluor Corp., Dallas Afterschool is expanding Wonder Kits to inspire more children during out of school time with hands-on learning opportunities. By ordering a Wonder Kit, supporters are playing a vital role in giving children across Texas, and beyond, access to informal STEM, geography and literacy activities.

# **Community and Program Partners:**























After-School All-Stars Behind Every Door

Big Thought

Bridge Lacrosse

Circle of Support

Communities in Schools Dallas Region

Dallas ISD DASA

Dallas Park and Recreation Department

Dolphin Heights Neighborhood

Association, Inc.

Family Place

Foundation Communities

Frazier Revitalization, Inc.

Girl Scouts of Northeast

Texas-Community Programs

Girls Inc. of Metropolitan Dallas

Heart House Dallas

Interfaith Housing Coalition

Jubilee Park And Community Center

Junior Players

Kids-U

Momentous Institute

**Project Transformation** 

Readers 2 Leaders

Rockwall ISD R.O.C.K. Afterschool Program

Santa Clara Regional Community Center

Society of St. Vincent de Paul StudyTime

Trinity River Mission

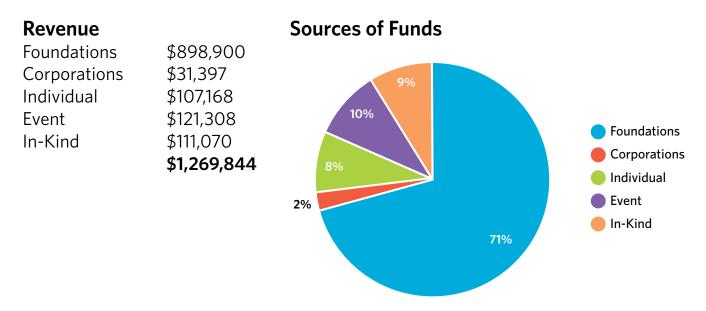
Voice of Hope

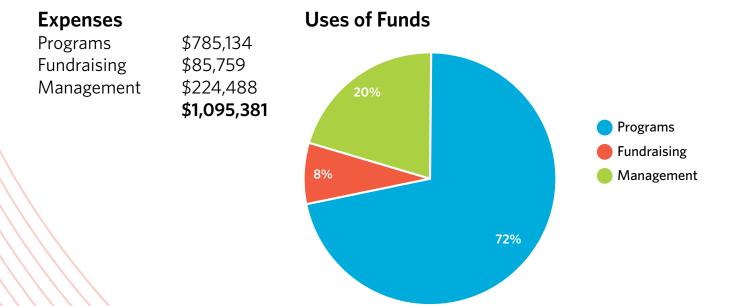
Voice of Hope at Uplift Gradus Preparatory

YMCA of Metropolitan Dallas

# Financials:

#### Utilizing your gift for the greatest impact





For complete financial statements, please visit www.dallasafterschool.org

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# Thank you for helping us make afterschool better!

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# What Our Partners Are Saying: The Impact of Dallas Afterschool



#### Frazier Revitalization, Inc.

With our program located just one block from the most dangerous street in Dallas, our kids face tremendous challenges from generational poverty and being raised in single parent households, to extreme violence and pressure to conform to a life of crime. Education is key to derailing the growing dropout rate and providing these children a way out of the poverty to prison pipeline.

We are thrilled with the impact Wonder Kits have had in our programs and the interactive learning opportunities they bring to our students. By keeping these students engaged and excited about learning, they are more likely to participate every day the program is offered. Thank you for providing this important resource to not only engage our students, but encourage learning.

Hank Lawson, Frazier Revitalization, Inc., Community Engagement Advisor



#### **Readers 2 Leaders**

At Readers 2 Leaders, we are thankful for our partnership with Dallas Afterschool. Being a new organization (we opened our doors in 2011), the Dallas Afterschool PQI process allowed us to learn about and implement best practices in after-school programming including how to incorporate engaging, hands-on projects with the kids. The staff has been a positive support throughout our partnership, and we know that Dallas Afterschool is a resource that we can access in the event that we have questions about how to run a quality program. Thank you, Dallas Afterschool, for your investment in our program and our students.

Norma Nelson, Director



#### Jubilee Park and Community Center

Jubilee is committed to high impact/ high quality programs that will break the cycle of poverty. Dallas Afterschool has helped us create curriculum, and policies that insure we continue to better serve those in the most need.

Dallas Afterschool has been a partner that has helped us achieve some great things! We have been able to work with them to create innovative and fun activities for our kids and make them excited to learn.

Dallas Afterschool has rolled up their sleeves and has been an amazing partner to help us create a safe and welcoming environment where kids love to learn!

Ben Leal, CEO



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www.dallasafterschool.org